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Fugitive Ex-Agent's Wife Gives Up On Charges Involving Arms Sales

By ARNOLD H. LUBASCH

Marilyn Terpil, the wife of Frank E. Terpil, a fugitive former agent of the Central Intelligence Agency, has surrendered in New York in a case involving illegal arms sales to Uganda.

Mrs. Terpil is not accused of selling weapons, but of conspiring with her husband to use false documents to obtain a United States passport for a former Iranian official as part of a conspiracy in the arms deal. She surrendered to customs agents Tuesday night after flying to New York from London, a Federal prosecutor said.

Her husband was last seen in Beirut, Lebanon, according to Raymond A. Levites, the prosecutor. Mr. Levites said another defendant in the case, George Gregory Korkala, was being held in Madrid, awaiting extradition to New York.

Mr. Terpil was associated with Edwin P. Wilson, another former agent of the intelligence agency, who was sentenced last month to 15 years in prison for illegally shipping weapons to Libya.

Released on Personal Bond

Magistrate Kent Sinclair Jr. released Mrs. Terpil yesterday on a \$50,000 personal recognizance bond, which requires no cash. She is to be arraigned next Thursday.

Guy L. Heinemann, Mrs. Terpil's lawyer, said she would plead not guilty and "expects to be exonerated." He said the charges against her had "resulted solely from the conduct of her estranged husband."

Mrs. Terpil, 43 years old, has been living in England, according to the prosecutor, who said she had "surrendered voluntarily." He explained that a customs agent went to England two months ago to meet Mrs. Terpil, who subsequently agreed to return to the

United States to face the charges.

The six-count Federal indictment of Mrs. Terpil, her husband and Mr. Korkala was filed in Manhattan in 1981. It named her in two counts involving a scheme to obtain a passport for "a senior member of the former Iranian Royal Government."

Iranian Also Indicted

Although the indictment did not name the Iranian, he is believed to be Amir Farhang Momtaz, Iran's former chief of protocol, who came to this country after the Shah of Iran was deposed.

The indictment's main charges accused Mr. Terpil and Mr. Korkala of directing a scheme in 1979 to sell more than \$100,000 worth of weapons to members of the Ugandan delegation to the United Nations.

The indictment asserts the illegal sales included semiautomatic pistols, silencers, ammunition and torture devices.

The indictment charges the defendants with delivering the weapons to the Ugandan Mission at 336 East 45th Street, and with knowing that the arms would be exported to Uganda.

Mr. Terpil and Mr. Korkala were convicted in absentia and sentenced to 53 years in prison on separate charges involving a plot to sell arms to Latin America.